



PERRIS UNION

HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES April 20, 2020

ROLL CALL

Present:

Trustee Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., President
Trustee Jose Luis Araux, Vice President
Trustee Edward Garcia, Jr., Clerk
Trustee David Nelissen, Member

Absent:

Trustee Randall Freeman, Member

Administrative Staff Present:

Grant Bennett, Superintendent; Candace Reines, Deputy Superintendent – Business Services; Dr. Charles Newman, Assistant Superintendent – Educational Services; Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent – Human Resources; Joseph Williams, Executive Director – Technology; James Heckman, Assistant Director – Technology; Art Fritz, Director – Facilities Services; Hector Gonzalez, Director – Facilities; Julie Zierold, Director – Curriculum and Instruction; Robert Brough, Director – Pupil Services; and Amil Alzubaidi, Director – Special Education

Others Attending:

Anna Fetzner, and others

PUBLIC NOTICE

1.1 PUBLIC NOTICE: The writings, documents, or public records described in SB No. 343 are available at the District Office, currently located at 155 East Fourth Street, Perris, CA 92570

CALL TO ORDER

2.1 CALL TO ORDER: The President of the Board of Trustees Will Call the Perris Union High School District Special Board Meeting to Order

The President of the Board of Trustees called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3.1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President of the Board of Trustees lead the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

4.1 INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Non-Agendized Items

The following public comments were received and read by Superintendent Bennett:

The public comment below was received by Lisa Towery, Labor Relations Representative for CSEA Perris Valley Chapter 469.

Good afternoon Board President Mr. Stafford, board members, Superintendent Bennett and Cabinet. My name is Lisa Towery, Labor Relations Representative for CSEA's Perris Valley Chapter 469. I'm not sure the exact topics of discussion for this COVID19 Study Session. I did want to share the following:

1. CSEA and PUHSD, specifically Assistant Superintendent Kirk Skorpanich and Director, Nick Hilton, have a collaborative relationship. I am proud of our relationship since we can address all items honestly and expeditiously. We take the time to resolve issues and not get mired in political nonsense. In my shoes, all the Districts CSEA represents do not act in this manner.
2. CSEA's government relations office works closely with the Governor's Office and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond. Those districts who are "bad actors" are reported to both entities. PUHSD IS NOT A BAD ACTOR. Thank you.
3. We received word that the District wants to begin deep cleaning your schools. Quite frankly, these are not essential services. The schools have not been prepared for deep cleaning. Classrooms need to be emptied and items boxed up, put away by staff (teachers, health office, library, locker rooms etc.) It may seem like an ideal opportunity to begin deep cleaning, but again, the District is choosing to expose more workers to the COVID19 virus by conducting non-essential services.
4. Not only would you put our members in harm's way but their family as well. Currently, it is highly recommended when you come home from work you leave your shoes outside, and if possible, go directly in and take a shower and immediately wash your clothing. Most front line workers even quarantine themselves away from their family.

INVITATION TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES (cont.)

5. CSEA and the District will go to the table this Friday, to negotiate a new MOU since the current one expires on April 30, 2020. At the time we negotiated the agreement we couldn't imagine school closures for the entire year.
6. I would ask that you reconsider the services you are asking our members to perform. Do we have to do this now or can it wait until summer? And if not, why not? Keep in mind many of the deep cleaning tasks take 2 people, that would violate the social distancing.

I thank you for your time and consideration of my request on behalf of the classified employees of CSEA's Perris Valley Chapter 469.

The public comment below was received by Josh Rushing, CSEA Chapter 469 President.

Good Afternoon Board President Mr. Stafford and board members, Superintendent Bennett and Cabinet. At the last special board meeting held on March 10, 2020 there were some reports that recently came back to CSEA, that there were some conversations regarding sanitizing the campuses and even to buy new "foggers" to help with this task. Since then, I am unaware of the machines to be used for sanitizing having been delivered to the sites but instead the custodians were given Hudson sprayers (like the ones you buy for garden use at your home). Another concern that I heard as a result of that special meeting was the need to institute deep cleaning of our sites by custodial personnel. As I am sure the board can understand, CSEA has a desire to hold off on the deep cleaning of our campuses since the rooms as of now have not been shut down like they normally would have been by the teachers that occupy them. This would make deep cleaning a concern since there are numerous things that can affect our members. An example could be being accused of throwing out teachers supplies, or even theft. Another issue is that our custodians could potentially have to deep clean the rooms twice before the start of the new year.

On top of the above mentioned concerns the main concern in regards to starting deep cleaning is that in our minds it is not an "essential activity" in order to keep our schools running. We currently have a rotation in place to address the cleaning of the admin buildings at all the sites as well as the kitchens to make sure they are cleaned and sanitized. We also have a negotiation session scheduled for this Friday to extend our MOU that sunshines on April 30th. This also includes any effects that have come up since the original one was negotiated. It seems that there is a "rush" to move forward with deep cleaning and sanitizing before all issues can be addressed.

I would like to add that the deep cleaning has been placed on hold as of last Friday night, due to the collaborative relationship CSEA has with PUHSD specifically the HR department and our ability to work through issues. I believe I said it before, but if not I will say it now, I want PUHSD to be the example to other districts of how to get through these uncertain times by ensuring the safety of all our employees; classified, confidential and certificated.

As always thank you for your continued support for our members.

STUDY SESSION

5.1 STUDY SESSION: The Board of Trustees Will Conduct a Study Session Regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The Board of Trustees was provided an update on the coronavirus (COVID-19).

The following comments/questions were received by the Board of Trustees:

Trustee Araux thanked Superintendent Bennett and Cabinet for the comprehensive and thorough presentation. He requested that the presentation be emailed to the Board of Trustees and also that future presentations have a section where the Board can ask questions after each department/division presents instead of waiting until the end.

Trustee Araux stated that after the Board approved the MOU with CSEA, he learned from different districts that CSEA employees who are requested to report to work at school sites or the district office are being recognized/compensated. He used the example of nutrition service workers reporting to work to make the grab-and-go meals on a daily basis for students and the community which are getting paid the same as campus supervisors as an example that do not have to report to work or do anything at home. He requested that the District provide or look into some sort of compensation for essential employees that have to report to work.

Trustee Araux also asked the following questions:

- If essential employees are being provided surgical masks, not bandanas or N95 masks?
- If the District is going to donate the N95 masks that are in storage to local hospitals?
- If graduations were cancelled?

Superintendent Bennett stated that graduations are postponed until further notice and Cabinet is waiting for direction from the health office and the governor to decide when school districts will be able to hold graduations or look into other options.

Trustee Araux asked if graduations are not allowed to take place in July or December, if the district has any long-term plans/options. What is the big picture?

Superintendent Bennett stated that the administration is hoping that graduations can take place in July or December but there has been talk that schools may not be open until after December. The District is in limbo in a lot of things at the moment but are brainstorming options.

Trustee Araux stated that there are many districts that are doing virtual graduations.

Trustee Garcia stated that he prefers weekly updates regarding the coronavirus.

STUDY SESSION (cont.)

Trustee Garcia also asked if sanitation of essential employee workstations is taking place on a daily basis and if masks, other than bandanas, were issued to essential employees.

Superintendent Bennett replied that masks were distributed to sites on Monday and staff are allowed to use masks, bandanas, or neck gaiters.

Trustee Garcia then asked if it is possible to donate the N95 masks in stock to medical staff stating that the District currently has surgical masks in stock and should be given to essential employees to use when they have to report to work.

Trustee Garcia also stated that he agreed with Trustee Araux in regards to compensation for essential employees.

Kirk Skorpanich, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, stated that compensation for essential employees is a negotiable item and is something that can be discussed in negotiations.

Trustee Garcia thanked essential employees for everything they are doing on a daily basis.

Trustee Nelissen thanked everyone for the thorough presentation and stated that he is in favor of recognition for essential employees that are in the front lines who are having to deal with the coronavirus on a day in day out basis and putting themselves in harms way, essentially.

Trustee Nelissen also requested that the District look into the possibility of a virtual graduation if a regular graduation is not possible.

Trustees Nelissen and Stafford are also in favor of having weekly updates in regards to the coronavirus.

Trustee Stafford stated that the presentation was very good and it answered many of his questions.

Trustee Stafford also stated that he agrees with Josh Rushing in regards that teachers should remove personal items from classrooms prior to custodians doing deep cleaning. He requested that custodians are given the opportunity to give feedback. He also mentioned that he would like personal protection equipment given to custodians, nutrition service workers, and other essential employees who are dealing with the public.

Trustee Stafford asked if a student does not use their school issued chromebook to do distance learning can the District see status updates on that student?

Trustees Nelissen and Garcia agreed with Trustee Stafford in that teachers should remove personal items from the classroom prior to custodians doing deep cleaning.

Trustee Stafford asked if the District has the ability to get internet access (hot spots) to families that do not have access to the internet.

STUDY SESSION (cont.)

Trustee Araux requested that the technology department create a priority list of students who need internet access and look into ways to accommodate them. He suggested foster students and seniors that are failing their classes should be top priority.

Trustee Araux also stated that at the last board meeting, Trustee Garcia made a comment in regards to a rumor that there are certain board members that communicate amongst themselves prior to making decisions at board meetings. He stated that Trustee Freeman emphasized that if that was the case it would be a violation of the Brown Act and he agreed with Trustee Freeman. Trustee Araux stated that if board members share the same principles and values and are committed to do what is in the best interest of students and staff that their actions and decisions are a result of their values. He stated that he is proud to have the board of trustees as his colleagues and share the same values and principles as them.

Trustee Stafford thanked Joseph Williams, Executive Director of Technology, and the technology department for doing a great job. He stated that he appreciates the behind the scene support and communication that Mr. Williams gives in order to hold the virtual board meetings.

Lastly, Trustee Stafford thanked the managers that put together the presentation.

ADJOURNMENT

6.1 ADJOURNMENT: Special Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees for April 20, 2020

ORIGINAL - Motion

Member **(David Nelissen)** moved, Member **(Edward Garcia, Jr.)** seconded to approve the **ORIGINAL** motion, "It is recommended that the Board of Trustees adjourn the April 20, 2020, Special Board Meeting of the Board of Trustees" at 5:24 p.m.

Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: Aye: **4**, Absent: **1**, Nay: **0**. The motion **PASSED 4 – 1 – 0**.

Dr. Jose Luis Araux	Yes
Dr. Randall Freeman	Absent
Edward Garcia, Jr.	Yes
David Nelissen	Yes
Anthony T. Stafford, Sr.	Yes

Grant Bennett, Superintendent

Anthony T. Stafford, Sr., President

Edward Garcia, Jr., Clerk